

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Regarding the Amendments

Claims 7 to 9, 11 to 28, 33 to 36, 39 to 42, and 45 to 51 are canceled hereinabove. Claims 1 to 6, and 10 were canceled previously.

Claims 29 to 32, 37, 38, 43, and 44 remain pending in the application.

Applicants estimate that no fee is required for the aforementioned amendments. If this estimate is incorrect, the Examiner is authorized to charge Debit Account 04-1512 the required fee.

B. Regarding the Rejection of Claims 7-9, and 45-48 Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 7 to 9 and 45 to 48 stand finally rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by DE 4,107,056 or WO 96/04289. Claims 7 to 9 and 45 to 48 have been canceled hereinabove. It is, therefore, requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

C. Regarding the Rejection of Claims 11-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 11 to 23 stand finally rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over WO 96/04289. Claims 11 to 23 have been canceled hereinabove. It is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

D. Regarding the Rejection of Claims 11-28, 33-36, 39-42, and 49-51 under 35 U.S.C. 112 (first paragraph)

Claims 11 to 28, 33 to 36, 39 to 42, and 49 to 51 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 (first paragraph) for alleged lack of enablement. The aforementioned claims have been canceled hereinabove; accordingly, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

E. Correction of Inventorship

The undersigned has reviewed the inventorship of Claims 29 to 32, 37, 38, 43, and 44, which remain pending after the amendments made hereinabove. It has been determined that a change of inventorship is required in view of the amendments.

The Examiner's attention is directed to a Request for Correction of Inventorship, which is filed concurrently herewith. The correct inventive entity should be listed as Zenon Lysenko, Bob R. Maughon, Josef Bicerano, Christopher P. Christenson, Clark H. Cummins, Marvin L. Dettloff, and Jerry E. White.

F. Supplementary Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner is kindly reminded to review the Supplementary Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO/SB 08 enclosed herewith and to review the information listed therein.

G. Conclusions

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowability of Claims 29 to 32, 37, 38, 43 and 44. In view of the amendments made hereinabove, Applicants believe that the application stands in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

RCE Transmittal
Request for Correction of Inventorship
Supplementary Information Disclosure Statement
Form PTO/SB/08
Copies of References & Supplemental Information

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